Appl. No. 10/719,263 Atty. Docket No. 9435 Amdt. dated 14 July 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2006 Customer No. 27752



## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

- Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A tampon for feminine hygiene comprising an insertion end, a withdrawal end, a center region, a longitudinal axis, and an outer surface; said tampon being comprised of compressed fibrous material; wherein said outer surface of said tampon comprises a plurality of recessed portions; each of said recessed portions comprising a length dimension and a width dimension; wherein said width dimension varies intermittently as measured along said length dimension; and wherein all of said outer surface of said tampon is liquid-absorbing.
- Claim 2. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the largest width dimension is located in said insertion end.
- Claim 3. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the largest width dimension is located in said withdrawal end.
- Claim 4. (Original) The tampon according Claim 1 wherein the smallest width dimension is located in said center region.
- Claims 5-6. (Cancelled)
- Claim 7. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said recessed portions are evenly spaced.

Appl. No. 10/719,263 Atty. Docket No. 9435 Amdt. dated 14 July 2006 Reply to Office Action of April 17, 2006 Customer No. 27752

- Claim 8. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has an essentially uniform density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- Claim 9. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein the fibrous material of said tampon has varying density over a cross-section of the tampon.
- Claim 10. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said tampon further comprises a core which is highly compressed.
- Claim 11. (Original) The tampon according to Claim I wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a withdrawal member.
- Claim 12. (Original) The tampon according to Claim 1 wherein said withdrawal end further comprises a finger indent.